

EURO - YUGOSLAVIA MUST STRENGTHEN DEFENCES

BELGRADE, SEPT 5 (UPI) -- A HIGH-RANKING YUGOSLAV COMMUNIST PARTY OFFICIAL SAID TODAY YUGOSLAVIA SHOULD STRENGTHEN ITS DEFENCES AGAINST "VIOLENCE WHETHER IT COMES FROM THE EAST OR WEST."

"ANY VIOLENCE IS FATAL AND ABSURD: THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AMERICAN AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM AND THIS (SOVIET AGGRESSION) IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, "FRANC POPIT, A MEMBER OF THE 153-STRONG CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, WROTE IN THE PARTY ORGAN KOMUNIST TODAY.

POPIT SAID YUGOSLAVIA, AT "THIS DRAMATIC MOMENT" SHOULD DO EVERYTHING TO STRENGTHEN ITS DEFENSES.

"THE EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA PROVE THAT PEOPLES CANNOT BE SUPPRESSED WITH TANKS IF THEY DECIDE TO FIGHT THROUGH NATION WIDE RESISTANCE.

"COMMUNISTS MUST BE HIGHLY ENGAGED IN EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN OUR CAPABILITIES FOR ALL-NATION DEFENCE FROM ANY VIOLENCE, WHETHER IT COMES FROM THE EAST OR WEST.

"IT SHOULD BE EXPLAINED THAT WE MUST NOT LESSEN VIGILANCE REGARDING THE DANGER OF IMPERIALISM," POPIT SAID.

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